

REMARKS

1. Introduction

Applicant has canceled claims 1, 4, 8-10, 19-26, 28 and 30 without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 2, 3, 5-7, 11-18, 27 and 29 are presently pending in this application. Reexamination and reconsideration is hereby respectfully requested.

2. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant appreciates the indication that claims 2-3, 5-7, 11-18, 27 and 29 have been allowed. All pending claims are now believed allowable.

3. Claim Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 4, 8-10, 19-21, 23, 28 and 30 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being unpatentable over *Wheeler et al.* (US Pub. No. 2002/0055932), hereinafter "*Wheeler*." Applicant respectfully overcomes this rejection via amendment (cancellation).

Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1, 4, 8-10, 19-21, 23, 28 and 30.

4. Claim Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claim 22 stands rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Wheeler* in view of *Hobbs* (US Patent No. 5,987,454). Applicant respectfully overcomes this rejection via amendment (cancellation).

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection of claim 22.

5. Claim Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 24-26 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Wheeler* in view of *Perkins, III* (US Pat. 6,396,913). Applicant respectfully overcomes this rejection via amendment (cancellation).

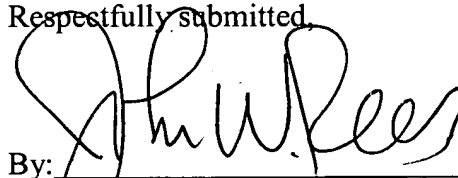
Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection of claims 24-26.

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6. **Conclusion**

For the foregoing reasons, all presently pending claims have now been allowed. Early notice of the same is hereby respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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